Senate File 527 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 527
BY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 1187)

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act relating to vehicles of excessive size and weight,
- 2 including highways and streets upon which movement of such
- 3 vehicles is permitted and warning lights on such vehicles.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

S.F. 527

- 1 Section 1. Section 321E.3, subsection 1, paragraph b, Code 2 2023, is amended to read as follows:
- 3 b. (1) The department may issue all-systems permits under
- 4 section 321E.8 which are valid for movements movement on all
- 5 paved highways or streets under the jurisdiction of either the
- 6 state, except the interstate road system if prohibited under
- 7 section 321E.8, or those and except any highways or streets
- 8 under the jurisdiction of local authorities that have indicated
- 9 upon which an all-systems permit is not valid as determined by
- 10 the applicable local authority if the local authority indicates
- 11 such highways and streets to the department in writing,
- 12 including by means of electronic communication, those streets
- 13 or highways for which an all-systems permit is not valid.
- 14 However, a local authority shall not determine that any paved
- 15 farm-to-market road, or highway or street designated as a truck
- 16 route, is not valid for purposes of an all-systems permit. A
- 17 highway or street under the jurisdiction of a local authority
- 18 upon which movement under an all-systems permit is valid shall
- 19 connect with a highway or street under the jurisdiction of the
- 20 state.
- 21 (2) A local authority that indicates a highway or
- 22 street upon which an all-systems permit is not valid under
- 23 subparagraph (1) shall provide a written justification
- 24 report to the department explaining the local authority's
- 25 determination. If the department disagrees with the local
- 26 authority's determination, the dispute shall be resolved in
- 27 accordance with chapter 17A.
- 28 (3) Notwithstanding a local authority's determination
- 29 under this paragraph, a person who is issued an all-systems
- 30 permit may operate a permitted vehicle over the most direct
- 31 route between the location where the vehicle is loaded and
- 32 the nearest highway or street upon which movement under an
- 33 all-systems permit is valid.
- 34 Sec. 2. Section 321E.24, Code 2023, is amended to read as
- 35 follows:

- 321E.24 Warning and lighting devices on oversize <u>vehicles and</u> 2 loads.
- 3 The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A
- 4 regarding oversize load signs, warning flags, vehicle length
- 5 warning lights, and projecting-load lights. A vehicle or
- 6 combination of vehicles with a gross weight or combined gross
- 7 weight exceeding eighty thousand pounds shall not be required
- 8 to display warning lights based on the vehicle's weight, but
- 9 may otherwise be required to display warning lights based on
- 10 length, a projecting load, or other factors, as provided by
- ll law.
- 12 Sec. 3. 2022 Iowa Acts, chapter 1076, section 7, is amended
- 13 to read as follows:
- 14 SEC. 7. PERMITS COUNTY AUTHORIZATION AND INDICATION TO
- 15 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION. On or before July 1, 2025, every
- 16 county shall authorize vehicles issued a permit under section
- 17 321E.8, subsection 1A, as enacted in this Act, to operate on
- 18 all paved farm-to-market roads, highways and streets designated
- 19 as a truck route, and certain secondary roads and indicate to
- 20 the department of transportation in writing, including by means
- 21 of electronic communication, those secondary roads for which a
- 22 permit under section 321E.8, subsection 1A, as enacted in this
- 23 Act, is not valid, as described in section 321E.3, as amended
- 24 in this Act.
- 25 EXPLANATION
- The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.
- 28 Under current law, the department of transportation (DOT)
- 29 is authorized to issue all-systems permits under Code section
- 30 321E.8 (annual permits) which are valid for movements on all
- 31 highways or streets under the jurisdiction of either the state,
- 32 except the interstate road system if otherwise prohibited, or
- 33 those local authorities that have indicated to the department
- 34 in writing, including by means of electronic communication,
- 35 those streets or highways for which an all-systems permit is

S.F. 527

- 1 not valid.
- 2 This bill authorizes the DOT to issue an all-systems permit
- 3 valid for movement on all paved highways or streets, except
- 4 the interstate road system if otherwise prohibited, and
- 5 except those streets or highways on which a local authority
- 6 has indicated to the DOT that all-systems permits are not
- 7 valid. A local authority is prohibited from excluding paved
- 8 farm-to-market roads and highways and streets designated as
- 9 truck routes. The bill requires a local authority to provide
- 10 a justification report to the DOT for each street or highway
- 11 on which the local authority determines an all-systems permit
- 12 is not valid.
- 13 The bill requires the highways and streets under the
- 14 jurisdiction of local authorities upon which movement under an
- 15 all-systems permit is valid to connect with a highway or street
- 16 under the jurisdiction of the state. The bill makes changes to
- 17 Code section 321E.3(1)(b) to enhance readability.
- 18 Under current law, pursuant to Code section 321E.24, the DOT
- 19 adopted administrative rules regarding oversize load signs,
- 20 warning flags, warning lights, and projecting-load lights (761
- 21 IAC 511.18(3)). The DOT's rules require vehicles longer than
- 22 85 feet but not longer than 120 feet, vehicles with a front
- 23 projection over 25 feet, vehicles with a rear projection over
- 24 10 feet, and vehicles weighing over 80,000 pounds to display
- 25 a flashing or strobe amber light that is visible for at least
- 26 500 feet and provides 360-degree warning, which light must be
- 27 mounted on the towing unit and be visible from the front and
- 28 rear.
- 29 The bill provides that vehicles exceeding 80,000 pounds are
- 30 not required to display warning lights based on the vehicle's
- 31 weight.

th/ns